## Amnsements, etc., Chis Evening.

BOOTH'S THEATER .- "Romeo and Juliet." Miss FIFTH AVENUE THEATER.—"Merry Wives of Wind-te." Miles Develort and Morant, and Mr. C. Fisher. Grand Orena House, ... Round the Clock. Mrs. John Weet, No Enna Horson, and John Bronk and John Branch William Ninta's Ganten, ... Leo and Lotos.

OLYMPIC THEATER. - "Kenilworth." Miss Lydia Union Square Theater.—"Agnes." Miss Agnes

WALLACE'S THEATER.-" Our American Consin."

BARNUU'S MUSEUM, MENAGERIE AND HIPPODROME, JAMES'S FINE ART ROOMS,-Illustrations of "Wait-

STEINWAY HALL.-Lecture. Henry M. Stanley. ST. JAMES THEATER. San Francisco Menstrels. TONY POSTOR'S OPERA HOUSE -"Danderbeck in

## Spainces Nanice

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## New York Daily Tribune.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1872.

## WITH SUPPLEMENT.

President Thiers has induced his Ministers to withdraw their resignations. \_\_\_\_ The stokers in four or five of the London gas works have struck work. - Th Austro-Hungarian Minister of Finances has resigned. Congress opened with a slight attendance in both = Tributes are everywhere paid to the memory of Horace Greeley.

The remains of Mr. Greeley will lie in state at the City Hall - The Jumel and Tweed cases were postponed Gold, 1123, 113, 1123. Thermometer, 39 , 44°, 41°.

The proceedings in Congress, yesterday, as well as the demeanor of the members as they returned to work, gave evidence of the establishment of an "era of good feeling." So far, Congress has not shown any inclination to heed the indiscreet advice of those who would like to see the animosities of a heated cam paign carried into the legislative business of the country. The action of the House, particularly, in refusing to excuse Gen. Banks from the Chairmanship of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, was graceful, dignified, and worthy of imitation.

The reported retirement of Mr. Justice Nelson from his seat in the Supreme Court of the United States will excite considerable dis- smiles. He was a journalist because he had cussion among the learned gentlemen who de sire a seat on the Supreme bench. The emipent Judge who retires is a citizen of this State; he has served through a long term of office with great acceptance; his retirement at the ripe age of eighty years is a natural and dignified close of his public labors. It will be a matter of pride, moreover, that his last official act was to affix his signature to the famous Treaty of Washington.

Steps toward the solution of the North Carolina Senatorial difficulty have at last been taken. Messrs. Vance and Merrimon have each been withdrawn by their partisans. This breaks up the Conservative deadlock, and, as no other candidate has yet been agreed upon, the total strength which has been united on these rival chieftains is scattered whimsically among about seventy candidates. As soon as the two Conservative wings can agree, they will be able to elect their candidate, as Mr. Pool receives only 55 out of 162 votes. It is barely possible, however, that the Vance-Merrimon contest has now made an agreement put of the question.

M. Thiers having refused to accept the resignations of his cabinet, consents to with draw his own if they will withdraw theirs they agree and he remains in the Presidency This is a summary of the latest news from France; it is a summary which has no longer the merit of novelty. Meantime, there is considerable uneasiness, one must suppose, and rumors of preparations for a coup d'état by the Monarchists are prevalent. If M. Thiers were a younger and more intrepid man, the most probable coup to expect would be his dissolution of the Assembly, which has no legal existence, and the election of a new legislative corps in whose hands the Provisional President would leave the future of the Re-

The resolution of Mr. Dawes in regard to the death of Mr. Greeley, offered yesterday in the House of Representatives, was an act as graceful as fitting. What we have said of the tone of the newspapers of New-York, on the same subject, we have to repeat, now that the general voice of the American press has reached us. There is a singular and touching harmony in the comments of the profession upon the demise of one of its great leaders. Scarcely one ungracious word or coarse reflection is to be found in all our cotemporaries-the well nigh universal language is that of friendly respect and of sincere regret. If Mr. Greeley, when considering the close of his earthly life, as one so reflective must often have done, anticipated this judgment of his Arethren, it must have been to him a source of the purest happiness. It is a great mistake to suppose that Mr. Greeley was aggressive against men, as he was unquestionably intolerant of what he considered to be their errors. Believing as he did the newspaper to be one of well done. But apart from inspiration of this

the most important agents of human progress he regarded its conduct as one of the noblest and most responsible employments in which an active and able and nobly ambitious man could be engaged. As he did his own share of the work with thorough and conscientious devotion, he did not depend upon cotemporary approval, albeit he was very far from disdaining it. Those who knew him best and must now speak for him, return their sincere acknowledgment of the general kindness, being obliged mournfully to content themselves with saying what they think-could his voice be heard-he would not disapprove.

Speaker Blaine could not well afford to do less than what he did, yesterday, to have the Mobilier business investigated. A Credit motion for the appointment of such a Committee of Investigation should have come first from Mr. Oakes Ames, against whom the case is more grave and direct. But the Speaker took the earliest opportunity to invite Mr. S. S. Cox into the chair, and asked for such an inquiry at the hands of the House. Two members of the Committee appointed by Mr. Cox are Administration Republicans, (Messrs. Poland and McCrary); two are Democrats, (Mesars, Beck and Niblack). and one, Gen. Banks, is a-Liberal Republican. This constitution of the Committee is a fair one; and the country will expect from them a full and open examination into the matter, of which Representative Ames's letters are the foundation.

THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF TH

In accordance with the action of our Municipal Government, the mortal remains of Mr. Greeley will he in state to-day in the Governor's Room at the City Hall, between the hours of 9 a. m. and 10 p.m., under the guard of deputations from the City Council and the Typographical Union. They will not be again exposed to public view. On to-morrow the funeral services will be held at the Church of the Divine Paternity (the Rev. Dr. Chapin's,) on the corner of Fifth-ave, and Fortyfifth-st., at 11 o'clock. There will be no procession going to the church, save that of the City authorities and their guests from the City Hall; and that of the Pall Bearers, Family, Tribune Association and employés, and representatives from other newspapers, following the remains. In the procession from the Church place will be provided for all organizations desiring to join it, by the Mayor and Superintendent of Police, who, on behalf of the City Government, have assumed the entire charge of this part of the funeral. Dispatches from two members of the Cabinet announce that the President of the United States will attend.

HORACE GREELEY AND JOURNALISM. The generous and sorrowful words which the newspapers of all parties have spoken of our lamented chief, show that the ambition which Mr. Greeley pursued in the management of THE TRIBUNE, while it brought him frequently into collision with public men, and led to many acrimonious disputes, nevertheless commanded universal respect. Beside his grave the bitterness of partisan warfare, the petty quarreling of rivals, the animosities of political debate, are wholly forgotten. From those who yesterday were adversaries, as well as from those who for years have been admirers and friends, come sincere and eloquent tributes, not only to the personal character of the dead, but to that lofty purpose which Horace Greeley made the guiding principle of his life. The school of journalism of which he was the foremost teacher has few attractions for those who seek money, or fame, or political reward. If it brought all three to Horace Greeley, it was not because he strove for them, but because fortune sometimes favors those who never court her something to say which the believed men would be the better for knowing; not because he wanted something for himself which journalism might secure for him. The call which brought him into the profession issued from a world to be enlightened and blessed, "not from a void stomach clamoring to be "gratified and filled." To publish a newspaper merely for the sake of making money would have seemed to him the degradation of a noble career.

Mr. Greeley has been described as essentially a propagandist. He was that, but he was something more. His labors were not onfined to the promulgation of his own theories of morality and statecraft. He made it, indeed, his part to assail giant abuses, and to battle for purer and juster government; but these objects were only incidents of a com-prehensive scheme of benevolence, which took n the general culture, prosperity, and happiness of the whole human race. The mode newspaper, in his view, was not merely the organ of pet theories, but an instrument of practical good, teaching the ignorant, leading the blind, succoring the poor, fighting for the oppressed, developing national wealth, stimulating industry, and inculcating virtue. To make THE TRIBUNE this, he put away from him all thirst for renown, all appetite for wealth, all desire for personal advantage. He never counted the cost of his words. He never inquired what course would pay or what would please his subscribers. He held in magnificent disdain the meaner sort of editor "who sidles "dexterously between somewhere and nowhere." accumulates riches by the daily utterance of silken sayings, and goes to his rest at last with the non-achievements of his life blazoned on the whitest marble." The journalist who strives only to print what will sell seemed to him as bad as the parson who preaches only to fill his pews. Mr. Greeley never hesitated to go counter to a base and selfish public sentiment. Those who have watched his career will recall scores of instances in which he has deliberately offended political friends and sacrificed pecuniary interests to espouse an unpopular cause. In defending what he believed to be the right, his courage was magnificent. He was deaf to popular clamor, insensible to the jangling of the doilars. The stern and thorny path by which an editor must climb to greatness demanded, according to him, "an ear ever open to the plaints of the wronged and suffering, though they can never repay advocacy, and those who mainly support newspapers will be

The pure unselfishness of his purposes the strength of his convictions enriched his labor with a strength, vitality, and persistence which mere mercenary enterprises never display. The noble ambition which consecrated his daily tofi impelled him to put his whole heart into it; and such work is always

'annoyed and often exposed by it."

ort, Mr. Greeley had remarkable qualificalions for the profession which he adopted. A quick perception of the significance of events, a keen scent for intelligence, an accurate judgment of the mutual relations of occurrences, a ready appreciation of the drift of popular currents, and a sympathetic comprehension of the public temper of the hour, were among the gifts and acquirements which he brought to his task. His fund of information was vast and varied. His memory was a marvel. His ingenuity in argument and illustration was inexhaustible. A clear, direct, forcible style, of almost painful conciseness, but illuminated at times by flashes of wit, by touches of tenderness, and by the happiest of homely metaphors, set forth his clear and earnest thought; while a singularly magnetic temperament infused a great deal of his own fervor into the men who worked with him. Thus equipped, Horace Greeley could hardly fail to make a great newspaper; but he did not make it to sell. THE TRIBUNE never was a commercial speculation; and if it prospered under his management, and grew to be a far grander and richer thing than in his early days he had dreamed of making it, this was not because he ever sacrificed the utterance of a single conviction for the sake of pecuniary profit, but because truth will force its way and honesty in the long run will compel the respect of mankind.

The success of Horace Greeley is the best encouragement for the journalism of the future. It teaches our profession that a nobler career is open to us than that of the thoughtless gatherer of news and gossip, or the huckster of literature who deals in anything that people want to buy, and the blackguard whose abusive tongue wags at the command of whoever will pay for its service. "He who by voice or pen," said Mr. Greeley, "strikes his best blow at the impostures and vices whereby our race is debased and paralyzed, may close his eyes in death, consoled and cheered by the reflection that he has done what he could for the emanci-"pation and elevation of his kind." But this shall not be his only recompense. The story of Horace Greeley teaches us that it is the journalist of strong convictions, unselfish purposes, and unflinching courage who wins at the last the honors and prizes of his calling, the respect of his fellow laborers, and the affection of his countrymen.

THE ANNUAL MESSAGE. The President's Message consists largely of a resumé of Department reports-with which we deal elsewhere more in detail. It thus gains in length but hardly in interest.

Its satisfaction over the success of the Treaty with Great Britain is natural. We did not relish many of the steps in that negotiation, and do not think highly of its tangible, net proceeds. But we do value very highly the triumph of the principle of Peaceful Arbitration, and as highly the removal of grave occasions for quarrel between ourselves and Great Britain; and on both these beneficent results the President may rightly felicitate his Adminis tration and congratulate the Country. They constitute a success as worthy of honor as any he won during the war. We wish there were not scandalous reports about the Mexican border troubles, to which the President refers; but what he says of them is well, and we must trust Congress to see that no undue use is made of it. The protest against the United States citizens continuing to be Cuban slaveholders is deservedly renewed; but it does not touch the marrow of the Cuban difficulty. What the United States has needed is not so much legislation against its citizens who continue to hold slaves under the Spanish flag as protection for its citizens against the outrages perpetrated under that flag.

We must frankly confess that we look with apprehension on what the President says concerning the gigantic plan of internal improvements, whereof he presents an outline. Canals from the Mississippi to the Atlantic, through South Carolina and Georgia; through the Virginia mountains; canals around Niagara Falls and landlocked navigation from the coast of Maine to the mouths of the Mississippi,-all these constitute a programme which we may be pardoned for regarding askance, even when presented in guise so little alarming as a Commission of Inquiry. Is it wise for the General Government to undertake such projects through our oldest settled regions at all? Is is wise to undertake them now, or within the generation that bears the burdens of war? Is there not danger in this growing tendency referring all matters of the kind Government support and interference? In a word, are we not already centralized enough ! Much may be said for each individual measure which the President names; but are they the business of the General Government now or soon?

The renewed recommendation of the Postal Telegraph system needs no such queries. We believe it full of dangers,-a wrong step in theory, and likely to prove worse in practice. It will be opposed by many of the President's warmest supporters, and we sincerely trust they may be powerful enough to insure its

defeat. No part of the Message better deserves the considerate attention of the country than the suggestions concerning the treatment of the Indian Territory south of Kansas. The President has fairly struck the vicious point in the present situation in declaring that the Indians now situated upon the Territory should be confined to farms of proper size, and that the rest of the land should be reserved for others who may be colonized thither. In effect this means the abolition of the tribal system. Till that end is secured, Indian civilization is an exotic. Even with the best blood of our Anglo-Saxon race, the abolition of clanship was indispensable to the peaceful progress of the country. Among the Indians it is indispensable to any self-sustaining civilization at all.

The District of Columbia deserves, and we hope may promptly receive, the Government's just share of the expense for the late city improvements, in so far as they skirt Government property. The work of the Washington Board of Public Works has had much harsh criticism; but of the essential justice of the President's recommendation in this particular we do not see how there can be any doubt.

What the President says of the Civil Service is less explicit and detailed than we could wish. But we have heartily given him credit for recent good acts in this direction; and we hope for more of the same sort, whereby we may better judge the brief paragraph with which he here dismisses the subject.

The Message, as a whole, is a plain business document, exhibiting a satisfactory condition of the business of Government and the Country, making no startling recommenda-

tions, pressing some mischievous old plans and presenting some good new ones. It will not add to the President's reputation or popularity. Neither will it diminish either.

BEFORE THE BURIAL Earth, let thy softest mantle rest This wearled child to thee returning, Whose youth was nurtured at thy breast, Who loved thee with such tender yearning He knew thy fields and woodland ways, And deemed thy humblest son his brother: Asleep, beyond our blame or praise, We yield him back, O gentle Mother !

Of praise, of blame, he drank his fill : Who has not read the life-long story! And dear we hold his fame, but still The man was dearer than his glory. And now to us are left alone The closet where his shadow lingers, The vacant chair-that was a throne-The pen, just fallen from his fingers.

Wrath changed to kindness on that pen; Though dipped in gall it flowed with honey One flash from out the cloud, and then The skies with smile and jest were sunny! Of hate he surely lacked the art. Who made his enemy his lover : O reverend head and Christian heart!

Where now their like the round world over? He saw the goodness, not the taint, In many a poor, do-nothing creature, And gave to sinner and to saint. But kept his faith in human nature; Perchance he was not worldly-wise, Yet we who noted, standing nearer, The shrowd, kind twinkle in his eyes,

For every weakness held him dearer. Alas! that unto him who gave So much, so little should be given! Himself alone, he might not save Of all fer whom his hands had striven. Place, freedom, fame, his work bestowed: Men took, and passed, and left him lonely :-What marvel, if beneath his load, At times he craved-for justice only!

Yet thanklesaness, the serpent's tooth, His lofty purpose could not alter; Toil had no power to bend his youth, Or make his lusty manhood falter; From envy's sling, from slander's dart, That armored soul the body shielded, Til! one dark sorrow chilled his heart, And then he bowed his head, and yielded.

Now, now, we measure at its worth The gracious presence gone forever The wrinkled East, that gave him birth, Laments with every laboring river; Wild mean the free winds of the West For him who gathered to her prairies The sons of men, and made each crest The haunt of happy household fairies;

And anguish sits upon the mouth Of her who came to know him latest: His heart was ever thine, O South! He was thy truest friend, and greatest! He shunned thee in thy splendid shame, He stayed thee in thy voiceless sorrow The day thou shalt forget his name, Fair South, can have no sadder morrow.

The tears that fall from eyes unused,-The hands above his grave united,-The words of men whose lips he loosed, Whose cross he bore, whose wrongs he righted, Could he but know, and rest with this! Yet stay, through Death's low-lying hollow, His one last foe's insatiate hiss On that benignant shade would follow!

Peace! while we shroud this man of men Let no unhallowed word be spoken ! He will not answer thee again, His mouth is sealed, his wand is broken. Some holier cause, some vaster trust Beyond the vail, he doth inherit: O gently, Earth, receive his dust, And Heaven soothe his troubled spirit!

SECRETARY BOUTWELUS REPORT.

For three years the Secretary of the Treasary has been able to announce a reduction of he National Debt at the rate of One Hundred millions of dollars per annum. He does so in his report of yesterday, but for the last time. He estimates the reduction for the current year at less than Sixty millions, and for the year, canals from the Ohio to the Atlan- ending June 30, 1874, only Thirty-three millions, seems too small, supposing the present prosperity of our foreign trade to continue. For better or worse, however, we are through with the years when our public officers could boast of One Hundred millions marked off the national score in a single twelve months.

Closely connected with the receipts of the Treasury and the reduction of the National Debt is the amount of our imports. Nearly two-thirds the revenue is derived from Customs duties. The Secretary laments the unfortunate state of our trade with foreign nations, pointing out that our consumption of foreign goods Inst year exceeded our exports of specie and merchandise by about Sixty million dollars. Certain it is that for the last three years our consumption of foreign goods, and in consequence the income of the U.S. Treasury, have increased amazingly, and the first five months of the current year show an increase of imports over the large figures of last year. But the case of last year is in some respects exceptional; and at all events is not so black as the Secretary paints it. In spite of a very light cotton crop, and a heavy falling off in the exports of cereals, except corn, the aggregate value of our products and manufactures sent abroad holds its own with the preceding year, and this year shows so far a very considerable increase. The balance of trade, whatever significance may be attached to it, will tend more in our favor for the current year, without our imports necessarily diminishing, or the Treasury suffering.

Both the Secretary and the President join in advocating a system of liberal subsidies for the encouragement of American steamship building. It is a difficult thing to check the alarming inroads of foreign capitalists and foreign ships on our carrying trade. There are objections to every plan. The natural course of things is said to be against us. Money, labor, and the materials required are cheaper abroad than here. Companies receiving Government subsidies are ant to be extravagant, and certain to be the subjects of envy and hatred; yet who does not long for the day when he can sail to Europe once more on an American steamer under the Stars

and Stripes ? The latter part of the Report is taken up with the discussion of currency problems. Mr. Boutwell repeats his well-known views of the methods of approaching specie payments. In his opinion there are but two-contraction and "growing up" to the present volume of paper, that is waiting until paper appreciates to an equal value with gold. He evidently regards contraction with favor, but thinks the people can never be brought to accept it. In discussing the periodical stringencies in the money market, he advocates the delegation of power to the Treasury Department to increase or diminish the issues of the national banks within certain limits to be fixed by

ble proposition, but until it takes more definite shape we shall not discuss it. In fact, the only remedy for the wasteful, not to say ruinous, crises in the money market of which we have seen so many, is a return to specie payments. Is it possible that both Congress and Mr. Boutwell mistake the temper of the people in not setting on foot some practical plan for making gold once more measure of value instead of an article of mer-

chandise ? Public Buildings, the Revenue Service, and other matters within the province of the Treasury Department receive proper attention from Mr. Boutwell, but little is said about funding, and the substance of what is stated under that head is that we can dispose of our five per cent bonds by paying the purchaser a commission equal to the discount at which said bonds are bought and sold in the market. This is true as the gospels, but it required no great originality to discover the fact. Funding is practically postponed until the disturbances in the European stock markets, caused by the German Government, have ceased, and of that the prospect is not immediate.

OUR POSTAL SERVICE.

The records of the Post-Office furnish gauges of our civilization. The continuous increase of its revenue-stated this year as exceeding last year's by nine per cent-till now it has reached \$20,000,000, is far in advance of the increase of population, and indicates by so much the improvement of the people and the spread of intelligence. Some evidences of this are supplied which are more convincing than percentage of increase over last year in postage stamps was about one-twelfth; but in newspaper wrappers it was nearly one-third. Coincident with the extension of the Post-Office business in other ways, is its progress in the requirement of railroad service. In 1837 this was reported as 974 miles; now it is 58,000, the greatest increase being in the present year, reported at 8,000 miles. Some improvements in speed, especially on long routes, are claimed every year. In our foreign correspondence the increase is greater proportionally than in domestic. We sent Europe last year 186,000 pounds of letters and received 165,000; but if literature forms the bulk of the package mail, we had the chance of learning more from European brains than they from ours, for they sent us sixty per cent more weight than we furnished, of printed matter and samples.

We have now the official figures of the Post-Office army; it is 44.600 strong, whereof 30,000 are postmasters who receive about \$5,500,000 salary per annum. Special account is made of the operations of the Dead Letter office, to which more than 4,000,000 letters found their way last year. That a considerable number of letters will always go there is of course to be expected, especially since they are sent there in case of neglect of prepayment; but the better the management of the general office and the more thorough the effort to deliver letters directly, the smaller will be the percentage of those that have to be opened by dead-letter clerks. It is not pleasant to think of how many broken promises and serious inconveniences are indicated by four million delayed letters in a single year.

The extension of the money-order system to

foreign countries has already proved of great service to that large proportion of our adopted citizens that contributes from the wealth gathered in the new home to the slender store of those who were left behind. The franking privilege comes in for the usual share of the Postmaster's objections; our opinions have been too long on record to need repetition here. Yet it does seem as if the country might wince under the statement that during the late Presidential canvass there was at least three and a half million dollars lost in postage alone by this abuse, while numerous delays and derangements of the regular business of the office are reported as the result of choking the mails with a prodigious amount of electioneering documents, most of which, know, were enfolded in forged franks a the Capitol.

A very large part of the Report is devoted to the advocacy of the assumption of the telegraph business of the country by the Post-Office, the entering wedge of argument being the needs of the Signal Service, and a dispute with a telegraph company about rates. On this, too, we have expressed opinions which we see no reason to change. The way in which the Post-Office conducts the business now intrusted to it, will not encourage the community to place more work in its hands. There are some who have made the experiment of mailing letters from Williamsburgh to Harlem and back again, who say that it still takes the best part of a week for the Post-Office people to make this round of a half dozen miles. But the most essential objection is, after all, that a postal telegraph system gives the secrets of the entire community into the keeping of the Government and makes a free press and an opposition to the party in power a mere matter of sufferance. Whether messages would be cheaper or dearer under such a system is not of importance. Nothing is cheap when its price is liberty.

THE ARMY Beyond the usual statistical summaries of

the various Bureau returns, the sanual Report of the Secretary of War does not go far. It is already known that the standing force of the Army has been reduced to its peace minimum; the number of enlisted men is about the same as it was at the breaking out of the late Rebellion. The cost of maintaining this force, however, yet remains proportionately larger than heretofore. But the reports and estimates show that this expense is steadily decreasing. The military expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872, were \$427,834 less than for the preceding year; and the estimates for the current year are more than \$1,500,000 less than those of last year. This is a fair showing for the War Department; and as long as we have here no official explanation of the complications which the sales of arms to the French and the disposition of the proceeds therefrom occasioned, we must accept it as final and conclusive. There seems to be some improvement in the personnel of the main force of enlisted men, judging from the casual glimpses which we get in different parts of the Report. That the desertions are fewer in number than formerly is ascribed to the influence of better pay. Is it not a fact, however, that any army, as it recedes from the extraordinary exigencies of war service improves in discipline and morale? The suggestion that soldiers condemned to confinement on account of purely military offenses are demoralized and made vicious on account of their submission to the degrading influences of State penitentiaries, is more just than complimentary to Congress. This seems to us a very questiona- our State penal institutions. Whether we ac

tually need a military prison is not so clear; there is a popular prejudice against such an establishment, though there may be no valid objection to it, other than that of its cost.

In the statement of transportation expenses, the item of \$1,100,000 for wagon costs and charges will strike every one as being large. This is due to the increased demand for quartermasters' and commissary supplies in distant parts of the country, where there are no railroads. The completion of railway lines now under contract will reduce this expense materially. At present, military posts in Arizona and some parts of the Territories north of California are supplied with stores bought in San Francisco, transported by sea, and thence by wagons or pack trains, in some instances through Mexican territory, at enormous expense. Railroad facilities will hereafter change the market and the route of these supplies, at great saving to the Government.

The Report justly gives some prominence to the work of the Signal Office, which has come home to "men's business and bosoms" something of a fascinating interest. This branch of the War Department is yet young and necessarily obstructed with difficulties; but its service to the country deserves a handsome tribute of fespect; and the statement of its communication with Canadian and West Indian systems of meteorological reports will be received with satisfaction. It is estimated that sixty-nine per cent of the forecasts or "probabilities" of the weather made by the Signal Office have been verified, which is a good record. As a business document this Report is up to the mark of its predecessors; the mere amount paid for postage; thus the if it lacks any special interest, it is because these peaceful times are; fortunately, not productive of attractive themes for such a document.

THE NAVY.

The Secretary states that the active force of the Department has been slightly increased since the date of the last report. The whole number of vessels in the United States Navy is given at 178 of all classes, carrying 1,378 guns, exclusive of howitzers, and rated as folows: 68 steamers, 929 gnns; 31 sailing vessels, 322 guns; 5f iron-clads, 127 guns; and 28 tugs. There are 45 vessels in commission for sea service, carrying 462 guns. The distribution of the force is given, showing a slight increase of strength since the date of the last report, but the Department has nearly reached the limit of its power in this direction. In the opinion of the Secretary the most politic course would be to construct a number of small active cruisers, of eak or iron, suitable for a time of peace, and fitted with the more economical machinery of modern times.

The situation of the iron-clad force as set forth in the Report is not encouraging. Several of the most powerful vessels of this class are of wood, and much of the frames of those which are built of iron are of the same material. This, it is found upon inspection, bas begun to rot, leaving no resource but to replace it with iron. This was done, and we are assured that several of the monitors are now in an effective condition for their pecuhar service. In regard to foreign service, it is stated that upon the European station we have maintained a fleet of six vessels and 110 guns; upon the Asiatic, 11 vessels with 116 guns; upon the North Atlantic Station, 11 vessels with 77 guns; upon the South Atlantic station, 3 vessels with 33 guns; upon the North Pacific station, 5 vessels with 65 guns; on the South Pacific station, 4 vessels and 43 guns.

The Report discusses at length the important subject of an Interoceanic Canal. It is the opinion of the Secretary that now is the time to consider seriously and effectively this enterprise, with a view of solving the commercial problems involved, and establishing water communication between the two oceans. The report warmly advocates the construction of the Isthmus Canal, arguing that naturally would follow from it the speedy development of our Southern and Middle tier of States, with corresponding advantages to the Valley of the Mississippi. Nor, in the opinion of the epartment, would the interests of land communication between the Atlantic and Pacific States be injured by the completion of such a canal. Many bulky yet valuable products of both sections-wine, grain, heavy machinery, and the like-will not now repay railway transportation over long distances. A quick and economical carriage by water, it is held, would favorably affect both the wealth and population of the Pacific slope, increasing railway travel and the transporation of mere valuable and less bulky merchandise of all kinds. The survey of the Isthmus of Darien, as well as that of Nicaragua, is being carried rapidly forward, and further appropriations for these surveys, as well as for that of the Isthmus of Tehnantepec, are recommended. The Report sets forth at considerable length

the advantages of the Navigator Islands, and specially of the Bay of Pogo Pogo, as an vailable station for coaling and supplies for our national and commercial marine. The natives are represented as well disposed, and Commodore Meade, it is stated, entered into the most friendly relations and intercourse with the people and authorities. Recent disasters by the explosion of steam-boilers have attracted the attention of the Department to the necessity of finding some remedy for these casualties. Experiments upon actual boilers have been authorized at Sandy Hook. No material advance in our knowledge of the subject seems to have been made since the experiments in 1836, by the Franklin institute of Philadelphia. 1836, by the Franklin institute of Philadelphia, under the patronage of the Government. Experiments upon actual boilers are too expensive to be carried on, except at the public expense, and a reasonable outlay for this purpose is recommended as an essential preliminary to judicious legislation upon this point.

A further adaptation of our Navy-Yards to the new necessities of naval warfare is urgently recommended. A better plan would be to abolish them. An advance upon the estimates of last year is made, but it is stated that these are wholly owing to the imperative demands for improvements in our steam machinery. chinery.

Street-cars and regulations concerning them lave become so important an element in city life that people generally will be interested in an important decision affecting the rights of passengers. In our Superior Court, yesterday, it was decided that a company is liable for damages inflicted on a passenger wrongfully put off by a conductor. In this particular case it was shown that instructions were given to eject passengers in certain cases; ignorant enforcement of those instructions wronged a passenger. So the court awarded exemplary and compensatory damages to the plaintiff; and the street-car companies receive another lesson for their guidance.

American seminaries do not have a mo Japanese students. There is now at the Woolwich Academy, by special permission of the Queen of England, a young gentleman belonging to the Royal, Family of Japan, and England beats us all bollow in one respect, for at "Mr. Rippin's Academy" is a real, genuine, unconestionable Prince Royal of Siam.